

PURPOSE

Encourage local governments to support the arts.

DESCRIPTION

The Commission will match, up to \$5,000, subject to funds available, the tax monies given by independent town, city, and county governments to arts organizations. The money, which does not include school arts budgets or arts programming by parks and recreation departments, may be granted either by a local arts commission/council or directly by the governing board.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Independent city, town, or county governments in Virginia.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Grants to independent arts organizations for arts activities in the locality. The Commission does not match payments paid to performers for specific performances. Local governments seeking such funding should apply in the Performing Arts Touring Assistance Program.

DEADLINE

April 1, 2014, for local government grants awarded in 2014-2015.

NOTE: A local government that has not approved its budget by the grant deadline may apply conditionally and confirm the application as soon as possible.

AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE

Up to \$5,000, subject to funds available. The local government match must be from local government funds; federal funds may not be included.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING APPLICATIONS

- Artistic quality of the organizations supported by the city/county/town
- Clearly defined policies and procedures for awarding local funds to arts organizations
- Degree of involvement of artists and arts organizations in the local process of awarding grants
- Responsiveness to community needs
- Evidence of local government support of the arts

APPLICATION/REVIEW/PAYMENT PROCEDURES

1. Local governments submit complete application forms by the deadline (not a postmark deadline). The Commission does not accept application materials via facsimile transmission or other electronic means (e.g. e-mail).
2. The Commission staff reviews each application for completeness and eligibility.
3. The Commission staff makes recommendations on levels of funding for each application.
4. The Commission board reviews the staff recommendations and takes final action on the applications.
5. After confirmation of the grant award, each local government will confirm in writing to the Commission that its governing board has appropriated the matching funds and the funds from the Commission. This confirmation must take the form of the appropriate page of the local government's approved 2014-2015 budget or a copy of the check (s) to the subgrantee (s). The Commission will pay the grant in full after receiving this confirmation by February 1, 2015.

Applicants should read the [2014-2015 Online Guidelines for Funding](#), Certification of Assurance and Grant Conditions to ensure compliance with all of the conditions. **The grant deadline is April 1.** The Virginia Commission will not accept any application materials via fax or email. For assistance or more information, contact the Commission office. The Commission staff is available for consultation on applications and to review drafts of applications.

Mail application to:

Virginia Commission for the Arts
1001 East Broad Street, Suite 330
Richmond, VA 23219
804.225.3132 (Voice/TDD)
www.arts.virginia.gov

DIRECTIONS

Provide all the information requested below in the order listed and send it to the Commission at the mailing address above.

1. Type **"2014-2015 Local Government Challenge Grant"** at the head of the page. Provide the information requested below on no more than TWO (2) 8.5" x 11" white pages and the attachments. (Use 12 point type or larger)
2. **Applicant local government name, address, zip code.**
3. **Telephone, email, URL.**
4. **Federal Employer ID Number.** The Federal Employer ID number is assigned to your city / county by the federal government as your Federal Employers' Identification number. This number must be included in your application. Payments cannot be made without this number.
5. **Duns Number (NEW).** This year all applicants must include their DUNS number when applying for a grant. This requirement is for the local government applicant only. Subgrantee DUNS numbers are not required. Obtaining your DUNS number is a free, straightforward process. To obtain your number, visit Duns & Bradstreet online at: www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number
6. **Contact Person.** The name, telephone number and e-mail address of the person to be contacted for more information about this application.
7. **Amount of Virginia Commission for the Arts assistance requested for fiscal year 2014-2015.**
8. **Proposed local government arts appropriation for fiscal year 2014-2015.** Applicant governments must match the amount requested from the Commission on at least a dollar-for-dollar basis with local government funds; federal funds may not be included. A local government that has not approved its budget by the grant deadline may apply conditionally. After the grant has been approved, any change in the allocation of funds subgranted to local arts organizations must be approved by the Commission.

9. Sub-grants (grants made by the local government) of any Commission funds from the Local Government Challenge grant program may only go to independent Virginia arts organizations for arts activities in the locality. Virginia arts organizations are defined as those organizations whose primary purpose is the arts (production, presentation or support of dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theater, or visual or related arts), that are incorporated in Virginia, and have their headquarters and home seasons, or activities equivalent to a home season, in the state. Units of government and educational institutions cannot be considered arts organizations.

Using the following format, list which local independent arts organizations will receive the Commission grant money subgrant. (After the Commission grant has been approved, any changes in the allocation of sub-grants to local arts organizations must be approved by the Commission.)

Organization	Mailing Address/Contact Person	Proposed VCA Grant Share
_____	_____	_____

10. What is the process for awarding the above grants? Who is involved in making these decisions? What criteria are sought in evaluating applicants?

11. Attach a copy of the list of your current board/council members, if a board/council is involved in making funding decisions.

12. Attach a brief description of the arts organization(s) proposed to receive Commission assistance through the Local Government Challenge Grant in 2014-2015.

CERTIFICATION OF ASSURANCES AND GRANT CONDITIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTEES OF THE VIRGINIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

Virginia Commission for the Arts grantees are required to be non-profit Virginia organizations and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a), which includes the 501(c)3 designation of the Internal Revenue code, or are units of government, educational institutions, or local chapters of tax exempt national organizations.

No part of any Commission grant shall be used for any activity intended or designed to influence a member of Congress or the General Assembly to favor or oppose any legislation.

Each Commission grantee will:

- provide accurate, current and complete financial records of each grant.
- maintain accounting records which are supported by source documentation.
- maintain effective control over and accountability for all funds, property, and other assets ensuring that assets are used solely for authorized purposes.
- maintain procedures ensuring timely disbursement of funds.
- provide the Commission, or its authorized representatives, access to the grant-related financial records.

The grantee will expend any and all grant funds only for purposes described in the application form and attachments. The grantee must request permission in writing to make substantial changes in budget, schedule, program, personnel. The requested changes must be approved in advance by the Commission. **NOTE:** If any project receiving grant support from the Commission has actual income in excess of expenses, the grantee must use these funds for other arts activities and the Commission must approve the organization's use of any of these excess funds up to the amount of the grant.

Each Commission grantee will comply with these federal statutes and regulations:

- Title VI, Section 601, of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provides that no person, on the ground of race, color or national origin, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
- Title IX, Section 1681, of the Education Amendments of 1972, which provides that, with certain exceptions, no person, on the basis of sex or age, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
- Americans With Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination against persons with physical or mental disabilities in federally assisted programs. Compliance with this Act includes the following: notifying employees and beneficiaries of the organization that it does not discriminate on the basis of handicap and operation of programs and activities which, when viewed in their entirety, are accessible to persons with disabilities. Compliance also includes maintenance of an evaluation plan developed with the assistance of persons with disabilities or organizations representing disabled persons which contains: policies and practices for making programs and activities accessible; plans for making any structural modifications to facilities necessary for accessibility; a list of the persons with disabilities and/or organizations consulted; and the name and signature of the person responsible for the organization's compliance efforts. ("ADA Coordinator")

No final report is required for the Local Government Challenge Grant. Each local government will confirm in writing to the Commission that its governing board has appropriated the matching funds. The Commission will pay the grant in full after receiving this confirmation.

In **all** published material (printed programs, news releases, web news, email alerts, advertisements, flyers, etc.) and announcements regarding the particular activity or activities supported, acknowledgment of the Commission must be made. A suggested phrase is "(organization or activity) is partially supported by funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts."

This form must be signed by an individual duly authorized by the governing body of the locality to act on its behalf and submitted with every grant application made to the Commission. The signature of the individual indicates the locality's compliance with all of the grant conditions listed above.

The undersigned certifies to the best of his/her knowledge that:

- the information in this application and its attachments is true and correct;
- the filing of this application has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant organization;
- the applicant organization agrees to comply with all grant conditions cited above.

The undersigned further certifies that he or she has the legal authority to obligate the applicant locality.

Typed Name of Authorizing Official _____ Title _____

Signature of Authorizing Official _____ Date _____

Applicant Locality Name _____

Applicant/Organization Name: _____

FORM BCKFDR\8891
(Updated 12/20/01)

NATIONAL STANDARD FOR ARTS INFORMATION EXCHANGE
RACIAL/ETHNICITY DATA COLLECTION FORM

Individual Applicants:

Individuals should circle **any combination** of the characteristics listed below that apply:

- A: Asian**
- B: Black/African American**
- H: Hispanic/Latino**
- N: American Indian/Alaskan Native**
- P: Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander**
- W: White**

Organizational/Institutional Applicants

(e.g. school, arts group):

Using the characteristics listed below, circle the predominant group of which the staff or board or membership (not audience) is composed. Organizations should choose the **one** code that best represents 50 percent or more of its staff or board or membership. If none of these conditions apply to the organization, classify the organization "99."

- A: 50% or more Asian**
- B: 50% or more Black/African American**
- H: 50% or more Hispanic/Latino**
- N: 50% or more American Indian/Alaskan Native**
- P: 50% or more Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander**
- W: 50% or more White**
- 99: No single group** listed above represents 50% or more of staff or board or membership

For Both Individual & Organizational Applicants:

Using the characteristics listed below, indicate if the majority of the grant activities are intended to involve or act as a clear expression or representation of the cultural traditions of one particular group, or deliver services to a designated population listed below, choose that group's code from the list. If the project or activity does not emphasize the culture or traditions of one group, please circle "99." If you seek or receive general operating support or support for administrative or artistic expenses for many projects and activities and cannot select one group, please circle "99".

- A: Asian individuals**
- B: Black/African American individuals**
- H: Hispanic/Latino individuals**
- N: American Indian/Alaskan Native individuals**
- P: Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander individuals**
- W: White individuals**
- 99: No single group**

NOTE: Generally, an activity can be considered "a clear expression or representation of the cultural traditions of one particular group" if it is:

(1) A project in which the intent is to communicate the culture or traditions of a particular race. For example, performances by an African dance company would be coded as "Black/African American."

and/or

(2) Projects which are usually understood to be reflective of the culture or traditions of a particular race. For example, Kabuki theatre is performed in many localities, and by many Asian and non-Asian groups. All of these performances would be coded as "Asian" because regardless of who produces the work, the type of theatre itself is widely understood to be an expression of Japanese culture.

This information will be used as part of a data collection project which documents state arts agency grant-making activities nationwide. This information will be used to determine national trends in grant-making and will not be considered during the grant-making process.